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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/893,611	06/29/2001	Akihiro Fujiwara	35.G2840	6494
5514	7590	01/26/2006	EXAMINER	
FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO 30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA NEW YORK, NY 10112			NGUYEN, LUONG TRUNG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2612	

DATE MAILED: 01/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/893,611	FUJIWARA, AKIHIRO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	LUONG T. NGUYEN	2612	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 November 2005 and 06 December 2005.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 06 December 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8 filed on 11/14/2005 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 5-8 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 5 (line 5), "the pictures signals" should be changed to --the picture signals--.

Claim 7 (lines 11-12, 13-14, 15), "an optical system" should be changed to --the optical system--.

Claim 7 (line 12), "a recording medium" should be changed to --the recording medium--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
4. Claim 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogino et al. (US 6,864,910) in view of Honda et al. (US Patent Application 2004/0201764).

Regarding claim 1, Ogino et al. discloses a stereoscopic photographing lens unit (lens unit 1, Figure 1, Column 4, Lines 37-65) that is attached to a camera main unit (camera body 2, Figure 1, Column 4, Lines 37-46), the stereoscopic photographing lens unit having a first photographing optical axis and a second photographing optical axis (optical axes 4 and 5, Figure 1, Column 5, Lines 23-37) and comprising:

control means for controlling photographing optical system including said stereoscopic photographing lens unit (lens microcomputer 127, Figure 1, Column 4, Lines 57-65);

transmitting means for transmitting predetermined information of the photographing optical system, including control information provided by the control means, to the camera main unit (predetermined data communication and control signals are exchanged between lens microcomputer 127 and the camera computer 208 via arrow 7, Figure 1, Column 4, Line 57 – Column 5, Line 4).

Ogino et al. fails to specifically disclose a camera main unit having a recording medium; and transmitting means for transmitting predetermined information to the recording medium in the camera main unit for recordation on the same recording medium together with the picture signals in such a manner so as to permit reading out of the transmitted predetermined information with the picture signals from the recording medium during reproduction of the picture signals. However, Honda et al. teaches a main lens L attached to camera body C (figure 1, page 3, paragraphs [0061]-[0062]). The camera body C has the recording medium C28 on which pictures signal are stored, pages 4-5, paragraphs [0079]-[0080]). The lens information is transmitted to the camera computer C01, the lens information is recorded together with picture signals (figure 1, page 5, paragraph [0080], page 10, paragraphs [0145]-[0153]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Ogino et al. by the teaching of Honda et al. in order to provide a system, which records lens information and picture signals together on the same recording medium. This allows the user recognizes the status of the lens when picture signals are reproduced and displayed on a display of the system as shown in figures 16A-26.

Regarding claim 2, Ogino et al. discloses wherein photographing lens unit according to said transmitting means transmits first information regarding a focal length (focal length, Column 11, Lines 50-58, Column 13, Lines 13-29) of the photographing optical system, second information regarding the interval (base length, Figure 1, Column 5, Lines 45-50, Column 11, Lines 50-58) between the incident optical axes of a first photographing optical axis and a second photographing optical axis, and third information regarding the angle (it is noted that the optical axes 4 and 5 are placed on the same plane and almost intersected at predetermined position, which is referred as converge distance, Column 5, Lines 32-36, Column 13, Lines 13-29) formed by the incident optical axes of the first photographing optical axis and the second photographing optical axis to the camera main unit in the form of digital values (it is noted that since focal length, base length, convergence distance are stored in ROM 130, 152, they are digital values, Column 13, Lines 13-29).

Regarding claim 3, Honda et al. discloses the recording medium for storing the predetermined information of the photographing optical system (the lens information is recorded together with picture signals (figure 1, page 10, paragraph [0151]).

Regarding claim 4, Ogino et al. discloses the stereoscopic photographing lens unit is interchangeable with respect to the camera main unit, and transmits the predetermined information of the photographing optical system through a mounting contact to the camera main unit (lens unit 1 is interchangeable with respect to camera body 2, Figure 1, Column 4, Lines 37-67).

Regarding claim 5, Ogino et al. discloses a stereoscopic photographing apparatus (a stereoscopic video photographing apparatus, Figure 1, Column 4, Lines 37-40) that has a first photographing optical axis and a second photographing optical axis (optical axes 4 and 5, Figure 1, Column 5, Lines 23-37), and switches picture signals for left eye and right eye (image for the right eye and image for the left eye are alternately picked up by CCD 200, Figure 1, Column 9, Lines 1-7), respectively, for each field through the intermediary of the respective photographic optical axes before inputting an image formed by said stereoscopic photographic apparatus in the form of the picture signals for the left eye and the right eye to recording means for recordation, comprising:

a photographing optical system including the first and the second photographic optical axes (optical axes 4 and 5, Figure 1, Column 5, Lines 23-37).

control means for controlling said photographing optical system (lens microcomputer 127, Figure 1, Column 4, Lines 57-65).

Ogino et al. fails to specifically disclose the recording means for recording predetermined information of the said photographing optical system, including control information provided by the said control means, and information regarding whether the odd/even field of an input picture

signal corresponds to a the picture signal for left eye or right eye to a the recording medium in the form of digital values, together with picture signals representing an image formed by said stereoscopic photographic apparatus or picture signals representing an image formed by said stereoscopic photographic apparatus and speech signals in such a manner to permit reading out of the predetermined information with the picture signals or the picture signals and the speech signals from the recording medium during reproduction of the picture signals.

However, Ogino et al. discloses predetermined information (predetermined data communication is stored in ROM 130, Figure 1, Column 4, Line 67 – Column 5, Line 4) of the photographing optical system, including control information (control signals, Figure 1, Column 4, Lines 57-65); and information regarding whether the odd/even field of an input picture signal corresponds to a picture signal for left eye or right eye (information on the even/odd field may be communicated through data communication between the lens microcomputer 127 and the camera microcomputer 208, Column 8, Line 65 - Column 9, Line 22). All the predetermined data communication and control signals are exchanged between lens microcomputer 127 and the camera computer 208 via arrow 7, Figure 1, Column 4, Line 57 – Column 5, Line 4. And Honda et al. teaches a main lens L attached to camera body C (figure 1, page 3, paragraphs [0061]-[0062]). The camera body C has the recording medium C28 on which pictures signal are stored, pages 4-5, paragraphs [0079]-[0080]). The lens information is transmitted to the camera computer C01, the lens information is recorded together with picture signals (figure 1, page 5, paragraph [0080], page 10, paragraphs [0145]-[0153]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Ogino et al. by the teaching of Honda et al. in order

to provide a system, which records lens information and picture signals together on the same recording medium. This allows the user recognizes the status of the lens when picture signals are reproduced and displayed on a display of the system as shown in figures 16A-26.

Regarding claims 6 and 8, Ogino et al. discloses first information regarding the focal length (focal length, Column 11, Lines 50-58, Column 13, Lines 13-29) of the photographing optical system, second information regarding an interval (base length, Figure 1, Column 5, Lines 45-50, Column 11, Lines 50-58) between the incident optical axes of a first photographing optical axis and a second photographing optical axis, and third information regarding the angle (it is noted that the optical axes 4 and 5 are placed on the same plane and almost intersected at predetermined position, which is referred as converge distance, Column 5, Lines 32-36, Column 13, Lines 13-29) formed by the incident optical axes of the first photographing optical axis and the second photographing optical axis. Ogino et al. discloses all these information are stored in ROM 130, Figure 1, Column 4, Line 67 – Column 5, Line 4; and transmitted to camera computer 208 via arrow 7, Figure 1, Column 4, Line 57 – Column 5, Line 4. Ogino et al. fail to specifically disclose all these information are recorded together with the picture signals.

However, Honda et al. teaches a main lens L attached to camera body C (figure 1, page 3, paragraphs [0061]-[0062]). The camera body C has the recording medium C28 on which pictures signal are stored, pages 4-5, paragraphs [0079]-[0080]). The lens information is transmitted to the camera computer C01, the lens information is recorded together with picture signals (figure 1, page 5, paragraph [0080], page 10, paragraphs [0145]-[0153]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Ogino et al. by the teaching of Honda et al. in order to provide a system, which records lens information and picture signals together on the same recording medium. This allows the user recognizes the status of the lens when picture signals are reproduced and displayed on a display of the system as shown in figures 16A-26.

Ogino et al. and Honda et al. fail to specifically disclose recording fourth information, which is the information regarding the angle of view calculated from the screen size of an image pick-up device and the first information. However, Ogino et al. discloses the storing focal length, image size of the image sensor (Column 13, Lines 13-29). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to calculate an angle of view (a fourth information) from focal length and image size of the image sensor, and then store the angle of view in order to provide more operational information. This allows more operability of the system.

Regarding claim 7, Ogino et al. discloses a photographing system (a stereoscopic video photographing apparatus, Figure 1, Column 4, Lines 37-40) for recording picture signals simultaneously input by a right-eye photographing apparatus and a left-eye photographing apparatus to a recording medium by switching the picture signals for each field (image for the right eye and image for the left eye are alternately picked up by CCD 200, Figure 1, Column 9, Lines 1-7), the picture signals respectively representing images produced by an optical system of the right-eye and left-eye photographing apparatuses, said photographing system comprising:

control means for controlling the right-eye and left-eye photographing apparatuses (lens microcomputer 127, Figure 1, Column 4, Lines 57-65).

Ogino et al. fails to specifically disclose recording means for recording predetermined information of the right-eye and left-eye photographing apparatuses, including control information provided by the control means, and information regarding whether the odd/even field of an input picture signal corresponds to a picture signal for a left eye or a right eye representing an image produced by an optical system of the right-eye or the left-eye photographing apparatuses to a recording medium in the form of digital values, together with picture signals representing images produced by an optical system of the right-eye or the left-eye photographing apparatuses or picture signals representing an image produced by an optical system of the right-eye or the left-eye photographing apparatuses and speech signals in such a manner as to permit reading out of the predetermined information with the picture signals or the picture signals and the speech signals from the recording medium during reproduction of the picture signals.

However, Ogino et al. discloses predetermined information (predetermined data communication is stored in ROM 130, Figure 1, Column 4, Line 67 – Column 5, Line 4) of the right-eye and the left-eye photographing apparatuses, including control information (control signals, Figure 1, Column 4, Lines 57-65); and information regarding whether the odd/even field of an input picture signal corresponds to a picture signal for a left eye or a right eye (information on the even/odd field may be communicated through data communication between the lens microcomputer 127 and the camera microcomputer 208, Column 8, Line 65 - Column 9, Line 22). All the predetermined data communication and control signals are exchanged between lens

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microcomputer 127 and the camera computer 208 via arrow 7, Figure 1, Column 4, Line 57 – Column 5, Line 4. And Honda et al. teaches a main lens L attached to camera body C (figure 1, page 3, paragraphs [0061]-[0062]). The camera body C has the recording medium C28 on which pictures signal are stored, pages 4-5, paragraphs [0079]-[0080]). The lens information is transmitted to the camera computer C01, the lens information is recorded together with picture signals (figure 1, page 5, paragraph [0080], page 10, paragraphs [0145]-[0153]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Ogino et al. by the teaching of Honda et al. in order to provide a system, which records lens information and picture signals together on the same recording medium. This allows the user recognizes the status of the lens when picture signals are reproduced and displayed on a display of the system as shown in figures 16A-26.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

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CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LUONG T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-7315. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, NGOCYEN VU can be reached on (571) 272-7320. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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01/22/06



NGOC-YEN VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER